

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-01

OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 OES-03 NEA-09 ACDA-05 NIC-01

SR-02 ORM-01 ARA-06 /110 W
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R 170604Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3518

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 630

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, US, UR

SUBJECT: PRC COMMENTS ON US TRADE BILL ATTACKS SOVIETS

REF: HONG KONG 206

1. NCNA DOMESTIC SERVICE JANUARY 14 (AVAILABLE ON FBIS WIRE)
USES THE EMIGRATION PROVISION OF THE US TRADE BILL AS A
LAUNCHING PLATFORM FOR AN ATTACK ON THE SOVIET UNION. THE
ARTICLE AVOIDS CONDEMNATION OF THE US AND DOES NOT COMMENT
ON OTHER ASPECTS OF THE BILL ITSELF. THE SOVIETS ARE CHARGED
WITH TRADING JEWISH EMIGRATION FOR MOST FAVORED NATION TREAT-
MENT AND, THEREBY, BETRAYING THE ARAB CAUSE.

2. THE SOVIETS ARE DEPICTED AS SEEKING US TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW,
LOANS, AND MFN IN ORDER TO SOLVE ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES CAUSED
BY THE FRANTIC ARMS RACE. THE ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT, WILLING TO
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GIVE ASSURANCES PRIVATELY ON JEWISH EMIGRATION POLICIES (AND

THERBY PERMIT US INTERFERENCE IN SOVIET INTERNAL AFFAIRS), THE SOVIETS REACTED ONLY WHEN THEIR DOUBLE-DEALING BECAME PUBLIC. "ALTHOUGH DEMONS IN PRIVATE, BREZHNEV AND HIS ILK WANT TO APPEAR TO BE HUMAN BEINGS IN PUBLIC." THE ARTICLE CLAIMS EVEN THEN SOVIET AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN PROVIDED ASSURANCES TO SECRETARY KISSINGER, AND A SOVIET DIPLOMAT ALLEGEDLY MADE A PARALLEL APPROACH TO A "WELL KNOWN CONGRESSIONAL LOBBYIST FOR ISRAEL."

3. THE PRC MEDIA'S PREVIOUS REPORTING ON THE TRADE BILL HAS BEEN IN THREE ARTICLES, TWO ON JANUARY 14 AND ONE ON JANUARY 6, CARRIED IN NCNA'S FOREIGN SERVICE. IN THE FIRST, NCNA DIRECTLY COMMENTED CHARGING THAT IT IS DISCRIMINATORY AND RETALIATORY, THEN FOLLOWED WITH EXPRESSIONS OF DISAPPROVAL FROM LATIN AMERICAN LEADERS (SEE REFTEL). THE OTHER TWO ARTICLES JUST STRUNG TOGETHER LATIN AMERICAN STATEMENTS OF OPPOSITION WITHOUT FURTHER NCNA COMMENT.

4. THUS FAR, THE JANUARY 14 ARTICLE HAS BEEN CARRIED ONLY BY NCNA'S DOMESTIC SERVICE WHICH IS NOT READILY AVAILABLE TO FOREIGN SOURCES. THE ARTICLE, HOWEVER, CLEARLY IMPLIES THAT THE PRC WILL NOT SACRIFICE ITS SOVEREIGNTY FOR THE SAKE OF US PREFERENTIAL TRADE TREATMENT. NOW THAT MOSCOW HAS REJECTED THE TRADE BILL, FURTHER PRC MEDIA ATTENTION IS UNLIKELY. HOWEVER, IN LINE WITH CHINESE PORTRAYAL OF THE SOVIETS AS SECRETIVE DOUBLE-DEALERS, SUCH PRC COMMENTS AS WILL APPEAR ARE LIKELY TO CLAIM THAT DISCLOSURE AND WORLD OPINION FORCED THE SOVIET BACKDOWN. CROSS

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